

# What's Wrong With Plastic Bags in the Recycling Bin?

## What can I do with them?



Plastic bags (and films and wraps) are bad for the recycling bins—Please dump your recyclables from plastic bags into the bin, and if bag is clean and dry, take it to a retailer that recycles bags!

### Why, you ask?

- Plastic bags, films and wraps are recyclable, but not by Rumpke
- If you leave recyclables in plastic bags, they will probably be thrown away at the Recycling Sorting Center; It's not cost effective to open the bags, dump the contents and throw the bag in the trash
- Plastic bags get caught in the sorting machinery at the recycling facility, causing headaches, downtime, and lost revenue

### OK, so what can I do with them?

Recycled plastic bags, films and wraps are not in as much demand from manufacturers, so retailers with large storage capabilities are more willing to recycle. To name a few, Kroger, Lowes, Home Depot, Meijers and some department stores have bins by the entrances for plastic bags, but did you know they will also accept other films and wraps? Please click [here](#) for a list of plastics Kroger will accept in their bins.

### Please Note:

All plastic bags should be **clean** and **dry**... dirty, wet or plastic with food attached will contaminate and render the bags unuseable.

Other **non-recyclable** bags or plastics are:

- frozen food bags
- cereal box liners that tear like paper
- biodegradable bags
- pre-washed salad bags
- candy bar wrappers
- chip bags
- six-pack rings